



U.S. Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FORMER IU FOOTBALL PLAYER INDICTED
FOR TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that EDDIE L. THOMAS, JR., 35, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for possession with intent to distribute five (5) kilograms or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine. The indictment follows a joint investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency, and the Hamilton/Boone County Drug Task Force.

THOMAS was arrested by law enforcement officers on March 27, 2004, following several controlled purchases of cocaine with THOMAS as the source.

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According to Assistant United States Attorney Cynthia J. Ridgeway, who is prosecuting the case for the government, THOMAS faces a maximum potential sentence of life imprisonment and a \$4,000,000.00 fine. An initial hearing will be scheduled in the near future before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the Defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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